

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 3, 2007, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the specification has been amended for better conformance to the drawings and to U.S. practice.

By means of the present, claims 1-10 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better. Claims 1-10 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6-7 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by an article entitled "Coherent Scatter Computed Tomography Applying a Fan-Beam Geometry" (Schneider). Further, claims 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Schneider. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-14 are patentable over

Schneider for at least the following reasons.

Schneider is directed to fan-beam based Coherent Scatter Computer Tomography (CSST) where a modified iterative algebraic reconstruction algorithm is used for reconstructing a structure function distribution. Beam hardening is discussed in general, where page 757, line 12, specifically recites:

Beam hardening effects will be treated in a future implementation. (Emphasis added)

It is respectfully submitted that Schneider does not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 6 and 9-10 which, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

performing a beam hardening compensation of scatter radiation data on based on the acquired attenuation data and based on an energy shift of an equivalent object equivalent to the object of interest; wherein the scatter radiation data is based on scatter radiation scattered from the object of interest.

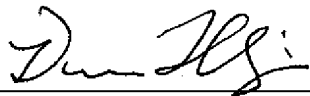
These features are nowhere taught or suggested in Schneider. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 6 and 9-10 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully

requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 7-8 11-14 and should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1, 6 and 9-10.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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